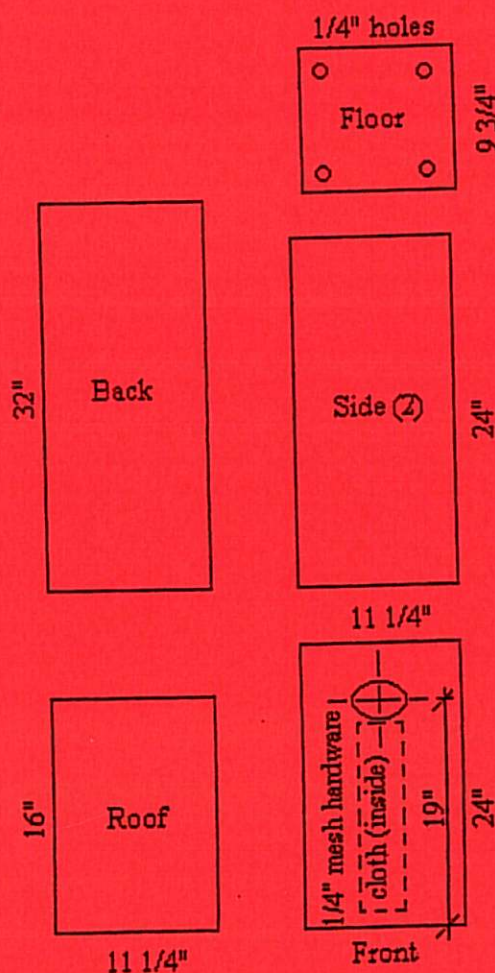


Wood Duck and Hooded Merganser Nest Box

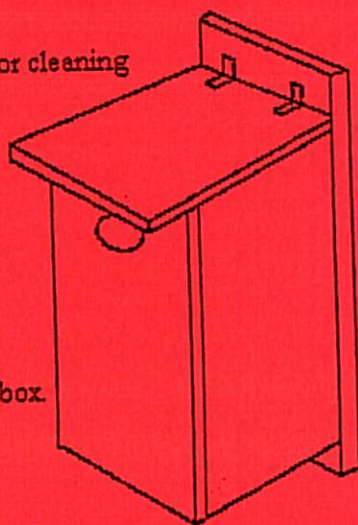
Wood duck populations have made a significant come back during the past 20 years, in part because of adding additional cavity nesting habitat in the form of boxes such as the one described below. Boxes should be placed over water or in woodland habitat within one-half mile of a wetland. Since



a female wood duck must lead her newborn young from the house to water, the path should be free of major man-made obstacles like street curbs, highways, or tightly woven wire fences. Boxes placed on posts over water should be 6-8 feet above the water's surface. Boxes placed in woodland habitat should be at least 20 feet high. At least 3 inches of mixed sawdust and wood chips should be put into the bottom of the box. The top of the box should be wired down to prevent raccoons from entering. It is important to attach a 1/4 inch wire mesh inside the box and below the hole so young ducklings are able to crawl out upon hatching. Entrance holes should be 3 inches high and 4 inches wide.



Hinge or cleat roof for cleaning



Place 3-5" of sawdust in bottom of box.

Lumber: One 1" x 12" x 12'0"

